

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
6 January 2005 (06.01.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/000822 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C07D 239/46, 401/12, 405/12, 309/04, 295/22, A61K 31/496, A61P 11/00, 19/02

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(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/GB2004/002702

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date: 23 June 2004 (23.06.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0301922-1 27 June 2003 (27.06.2003) SE

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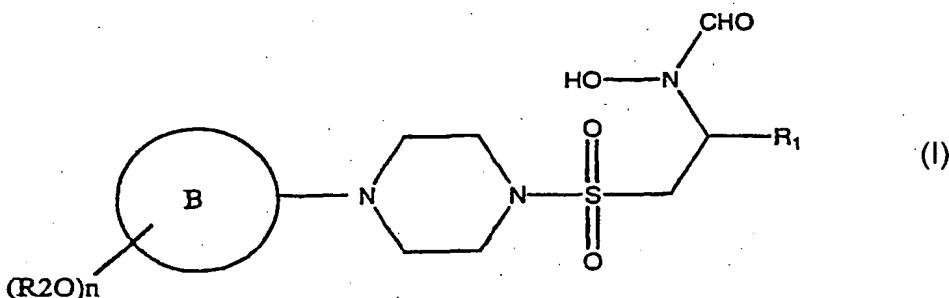
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: N-(4-SUBSTITUTED PIPERAZINE-1-SULFONYLMETHYLALKYL)-N-HYDROXYFOMAMIDE COMPOUNDS AS METALLOPROTEINASE INHIBITORS



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(57) Abstract: The invention provides compounds of formula (I): or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, wherein ring B represents a monocyclic aryl ring having six ring atoms or a monocyclic heteroaryl ring having up to six ring atoms and containing one or more ring heteroatoms wherein each said heteroatom is nitrogen; R2 represents a group selected from C1-6 alkyl or aryl, which said group is substituted by one or more fluorine groups; n is 1, 2 or 3; and R1 represents an optionally substituted group selected from C1-6 alkyl, C5-7 cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C1-6 alkyl-aryl, C1-6alkyl-heteroaryl, C1-6 alkyl-cycloalkyl or C1-6alkyl-heterocycloalkyl. Processes for their preparation; pharmaceutical compositions containing them; and their use in the treatment of a disease condition mediated by one or more metalloproteinase enzymes.